THE 4TH QUARTER REAL ESTATE TAX BILLS WILL BE DUE MAY 1ST



MFD outlines 2019 burning season regulations

Spring is here!! After a long winter the snow is almost gone(for now) and the ground cover is drying quickly. Get your brush piles handled soon. The open burning season could close at any time and not reopen til next year.

Have a great spring!

Open Burning: Burning season is Jan 15 to May 1, between 10 am and 4 pm. A permit is required. Permits can be attained by calling the Fire Dept business phone, #862-4505 and leaving a detailed message with name, date you are burning, complete address and best phone# to reach you. Open burning must be at least 75 feet from any building. Brush and forestry debris are all that is permitted to be



154 Main Road Montgomery, MA

burned. Grass, hay, leaves, stumps, or construction material is prohibited to be burned. An adult should always be present until fire is completely extinguished. Water supply must be on hand. Call 911 immediately if the fire appears to be getting out of hand. The

permit can be rescinded at any time due to weather conditions. More Open Burning tips can be found online at the Fire Factors website, Office of the State Fire Marshal, www.mass.gov/dfs.

The Montgomery Fire Department

Town still needs another School Committee member

Montgomery is currently represented by only one school committee member, and a second person is needed to fully represent our Town. This is an ideal time to become involved in the process, as the six District towns are engaged in facilitated discussions with the school administration and committee to develop long term strategies for the District's future.

The School Committee is the equivalent of a board of directors of a corporation, which in this case is a school system. The school committee has oversight of and responsibility for the school system, sets the direction in which the system must go, and establishes criteria to determine if its goals and policies are being met. Please contact Jane Thielen or Dan Jacques for further information.

Town Clerk NEWS

The Annual Town Election will be held on Monday May 6th from 12:00-7:00pm. The following will be on the ballot for voting. Selectman for 3 years; Daniel Jacques & Donald Washburn, Constable for 3 years; Daniel Flechsig, Assessor for 3 years; Timothy Baker, Town Clerk for 3 years; Judy Murphy, Library Trustee for 3 years; Karen Chaffee, Trustee of the A.P. Pettis Fund for 3 years; Laura Flechsig, Moderator for 1 year; Peter Brady, School Committee Rep. for 3 years; vacant, and Tree Warden for 1 year; vacant.

If you are unable to come to the election please give me a call and I will get an absentee ballot out to you. They will be available April 1st.

Judy Murphy, Town Clerk 413-862-4478

There is nothing permanent except change. ??

Heraclitus

Important numbers

FIRE EMERGENCY	911
AMBULANCE	911
STATE POLICE	911
HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT	862-4037
GATEWAY HIGH SCHOOL GATEWAY MIDDLE SCHOOL GMS ATTENDANCE LITTLEVILLE ELEMENTARY	685-1102 685-1202 685-1201 685-1301
TOWN HALL OFFICE townhall@montgomeryma.go Administrative Secretary Hou	862-3386 v rs, Tuesdays

& Thursdays from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

FIRE DEPT: 862-4505

DEPUTY FIRE CHIEF - CHRIS GALIPEAU

TOWN CLERK - JUDY MURPHY 862-4478 Office hours are on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of each month from Noon - 4:00. Or you may call for an appointment.

POLICE DEPT:

ADMINISTRATIVE POLICE CHIEF -PAULA CHAPMAN 862-4949

TAX COLLECTOR - JANE THIELEN 862-3386

ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER -

PHIL CAMP 862-4976

SELECT BOARD:

DAN JACQUES 862-9001
MIKE MORRISSEY 862-3386
JACOB CHAPMAN 862-4949
Meetings for the Select Board are held at
7:00 p.m. every other Thursday.

SCHOOL COMMITTEE:

MADELYN AUSTIN 862-4004 mrrrr@verizon.net

LIBRARY:

HOURS:

LIBRARIAN - PAULA LONG 862-3894

montgomerylibrary@yahoo.com Tuesday 10:00 a.m.-5:30 p.m.

Thursday 4:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m. Saturday 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

BOARD OF ASSESSORS:

Meetings of the Board of Assessors are held on the 1st & 3rd Wednesday of each month from 8:00 p.m.-9:30 p.m. Please call 862-3386 for an appointment. Assessors' Clerk hours 1st & 3rd Wednesdays of each month from Noon – 4 p.m.

State Senator Don Humason: 64 Noble St., Westfield, MA 01085 (413) 568-1366

Donald.Humason@masenate.gov

State Representative Lindsay Sabadosa: info@lindsaysabadosa.com

(413) 539-8599

April Calendar

Аp	r. Z	Recy	ciing aa	ıy		
_	_			_	 	

Apr. 3 Noon – 4 pm – Town Clerk Hours – Town Hall

Apr. 3 6:30 pm – Yoga – Town Hall

Apr. 4 9:00 am — Tai Chi — Town Hall

Apr. 4 7:00 pm – Selectboard Meeting – Town Hall

Apr. 5 9:30 – 11:00 am – Osteoporosis Exercise – Town Hall

Apr. 9 10:00 am – COA Coffee Hour – Town Hall

Apr. 10 6:30 pm – Yoga – Town Hall **9:00 am** – Tai Chi – Town Hall

Apr. 12 9:30 – 11:00 am – Osteoporosis Exercise – Town Hall

Apr. 16 Recycling day

Apr. 17 Noon – 4 pm – Town Clerk Hours – Town Hall

Apr. 17 6:30 pm – Yoga – Town Hall

Apr. 18 9:00 am – Tai Chi – Town Hall

Apr. 18 7:00 pm – Selectboard Meeting – Town Hall

Apr. 19 9:30 – 11:00 am – Osteoporosis Exercise – Town Hall

Apr. 21 Easter

862-4599

Apr. 23 10:00 am - COA Coffee Hour - Town Hall

Apr. 24 6:30 pm – Yoga – Town Hall

Apr. 24 7:00 pm – GRSD Special Education Transition Overview/Update

CPR - Gateway MS, Rm 112/114

Apr. 25 9:00 am – Tai Chi – Town Hall

Apr. 25 7:00 pm – GRSD School Comm – Gateway MS, Rm 112/114

Apr. 26 9:30 –11:00 am – Osteoporosis Exercise – Town Hall

Apr. 27 11:30 am – Huntington Lions Club Senior Luncheon – VFW Russell

Apr. 27 6:30 pm - HS Roast Pork Supper - Town Hall

Apr. 30 Recycling day

Paula L. Chapman

Administrative Chief of Police for the Town of Montgomery
OFFICE HOURS: 6:30 pm to 7:45 pm

April 4, 2019 April 18, 2019

May 2, 2019 May 16, 2019 May 30, 2019

MOUNTAIN BREEZE AD POLICY

Montgomery resident ads: \$3.50 for $\frac{1}{4}$ page, \$7.00 for $\frac{1}{2}$ page, \$10.50 for $\frac{3}{4}$ page and \$14.00 for a full page.

Non-resident ads: \$5.00 for $\frac{1}{2}$ page, \$10.00 for $\frac{1}{2}$ page, \$15.00 for $\frac{3}{2}$ page and \$20.00 for a full page.

Political ads: \$15.00 for $\frac{1}{2}$ page and \$30.00 for a full page. (Political ads must include the name of the payer.)

Ads: email (preferably pdf file) to montgomerymtbreeze@gmail.com, put in the MB box at the Library, or mail to: Montgomery Mountain Breeze, c/o Grace Hall Memorial Library, 161 Main Road, Montgomery, MA 01085-9525. Include your name and phone number. Payment must be received by deadline date (usually on the 16th of the month) or ad will not be run. No cash, please; make check payable to Montgomery Mountain Breeze and put in the MB box at the Library, or mail to above address.

MOUNTAIN BREEZE STAFF

Editor: T.Lak 413-237-2818
Helen Allyn * Chris Brown * Laurie Flechsig * Paula Long * Julie Pike *
Jane Thielen

montgomerymtbreeze@gmail.com

The Grille is the place to meet your neighbors!



With Spring comes a new awaking. So let's review...I am not in jail, NOT in jail; and the grille is NOT moving.

We like it here, and we like our customers. (Just don't tell anybody about us.) Our kitchen is small and the hilltowns are vast. Even some of the Valley people have found their way up here. We have tried to stay hidden but anyone that has been to Montgomery knows how special it is. I'm glad to have lasted here four and a half years and hope to be here many more!

Special note about Easter. We will be closing at 1:00 pm and serving breakfast only. There is a rumor that Jennie may be dressed as an Easter Bunny.



Hours: Wednesday, Thursday, Friday: 5:30 am to 2:30 pm

Saturday and Sunday: 6:00 am to 2:30 pm Lunch starts I I:00 am

46 Main Rd, Montgomery, MA • 862-(FOOD) 3663 Closed Mondays & Tuesdays

Dog license(s) 2019 update

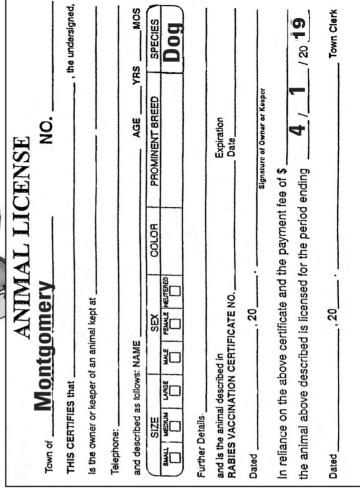
Your current dog license will expire at the end of March. The new licenses are in. You must license your dog in this town or any other town that you live in. You can mail it to the address below just make sure you include a self-addressed stamped envelope, and a check made out to the Town of Montgomery. If you do not send the self-addressed stamped envelope the license will not be mailed back to you. The fee for dogs that are neutered is \$6.00, un-neutered is \$10.00. For multiple dogs you can make a copy of this form. If you prefer you can license your dog during the town clerks regular hours as listed in the Mt. Breeze, or you may also call me and make an appointment to obtain your license. You will also be able to obtain a license at

questions please feel free to call me. The town by-laws require all dogs be licensed by July 1st of each year or you will be fined a late fee of \$25.00 per dog, along with the licensing fee. All dogs three months and older, even if they are inside dogs, must be licensed.

the upcoming Town Election which will be held on Monday May 6, 2019 from

12:00 to 7:00p.m. If you have any other

Thank you; Judith L. Murphy, Town Clerk 58 North Rd, Montgomery, MA, 01085 413-862-4478





Are you or anyone you know interested in buying or selling a Home, Condo, Land, or Mobile Home in the Western Mass area? If you do please call the number listed below for an appointment.

I look forward to speaking with you.

Judy Murphy Office number: 413-552-7123 **Email address:** judymurphy4478@gmail.com Also check us out on facebook @ **Judy Murphy Realtor.**

If you get the recording, please leave a message and I will get back to you that same day. Make sure you leave your name, phone number, and best time to call.

Start tomato, pepper and eggplant seed indoors.

bushes. It is an economical way to

- Prune summer flowering shrubs before new growth begins.
- Thin seedlings by cutting them off with scissors at soil
- Plant leafy greens in wide rows of 14 to 16 inches to save
- Newly planted rhubarb should not be harvested the first
- Wear tick repellent and conduct daily tick checks of people and pets.
- Easter lilies can be replanted in the garden after blooms have gone.

The above information is from UMass Garden Calendar

As we eagerly await spring like

weather, we can plan our gardens, order our seeds or anticipate purchasing seedlings and plants at the garden center. You can also plan on purchasing

plants at the Montgomery Library's Book & Plant Sale, Saturday May 18th at the Little Red School House on Pitcher St. As we have in the past, we are planning on donations of perennials and plants from the many excellent gardeners in town. And hopefully, in April, you will be able to start dividing your perennials. All gardeners know the importance of dividing perennials. Overcrowded gardens cause multiple problems for the plants. Thinning out plants makes for better gardens. Contact Chris Brown at 862-4591/chrisbro40@yahoo.com or leave word at the library, if you would like to donate plants.

Also, on the gardening front, I have a little tidbit to save for your summer gardening. Helen Allyn gave me a nice article on using coffee grounds around your rose

SLOW COOKER BEAN DIP

Recipe for April 2019 Sent in by Jeanne Aras. Thank you, Jeanne.

1 can refried beans 1 cup shredded Monterey Jack cheese 3/4 cup sour cream 1 Tbsp. chili powder Tortilla Chips & Salsa

1 cup picante sauce 1 cup shredded cheddar cheese 1 pkg. (3 oz.) cream cheese, softened 1/4 tsp. ground cumin

Combine 1st 8 ingredients in a large bowl and put into a 1½ qt. slow cooker. Cover and cook on high for 2 hours or until heated through, stirring once or twice. Serve with tortilla chips and salsa.

Visit the Library's Book and Plant Sale; divide perennials

GardenNews

by Chris Brown



View the current and back issues of the Montgomery MT Breeze at the Town of Montgomery website:

montgomeryma.gov

Condolences

to Sharon and Andrew Lussier on the loss of Sharon's sister Jennifer L. Whitman, who passed away on February 4 at home in Blandford.

to Linda Levite and family on the loss of her husband Victor A. Levite who passed away on February 12 in Springfield.

to David and Connie Champiney on the loss of David's father Donald R.Champiney on February 17 in Westfield.

to Christian Bigelow and family on the passing of his wife, Patricia on Feb. 27.

APRIL BIRTHDAYS:

Tim Baker **Betty Bodendorf** Scott Brzoska **Curtis Bush** Kathleen Cinelli

Erica Coon Joseph Coon **Trevor Coon** Louise Fowles Sandra Gil Gabrielle Goralczyk Jerry Goralczyk

Jason Harris, Jr. John Little Rick Little Paul Mason Mike Morrissey Ed Ondrick Louise Ondrick

Lyndon Ondrick **Daniel Paradis** Patty Spencer Joshua Tatro Gene Washburn **Dennis Wassung** Aaron Wendt

ANNIVERSARIES

Patty & Rich Little

Annual Pork Roast Dinner highlights HH April calendar

Surely we are all ready to WELCOME SPRING!!! 'Tis so good to hear the birds, see the snows recede, and watch the deer as they come out of the woods to forage where there is more to choose from.



Attendance at the annual Penny Social, hosted by your Montgomery Historical Society in early March, was disappointing this year. Those who came enjoyed themselves, and Henry Lafleur as our "auctioneer" was witty as usual. As most of you know, this event is one of our major fundraisers to support scholarship(s) for graduating Montgomery high school seniors. Just a reminder: if we are unable to raise the funds, we will eventuallly have to discontinue giving scholarships to our deserving students as they seek to further their education. Just sayin'...

It's time to make your reservations for the annual Roast

Pork Supper on Saturday, April 27 at 6:30 p.m. in the Town Hall. In addition to the roast pork, the meal will include mashed potatoes, gravy, vegetables in season, homemade applesauce, beverages, and home-made gingerbread with whipped

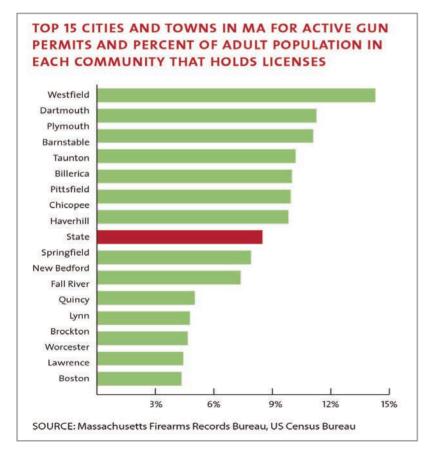
cream. For just \$10 per person (\$5.00 for children 10 and under), you can't beat this bargain! **Please contact either Laurie (862-8095) or Julie (862-4539)** on or before Monday, April 22 to save your space at the supper.

Our guest speaker has not yet confirmed their attendance. We will post the information in the Country Journal and/or Westfield News as soon as we have a commitment.

Please know that ALL ARE WELCOME! Join us on the 27th for a hearty meal and interesting speaker. You can't beat the price! Looking forward to seeing you there.

The display case donated to the Montgomery library by Helen Allyn and her late mother, Susan, which exhibits are "curated" by the Historical Society, is currently housing a display titled "Do you hear what I hear?" It includes all manner of handbells as well as a collection of music boxes – all loaned by two members of your Historical Society. We hope you enjoy visiting the library, and while there, will take the opportunity to view the exhibit there. Thank you! And don't forget – we'd love to display your collections or items of interest to the townspeople. Please call Laurie 862-8095 to discuss a date to include your "treasures."

F.I.D. licenses must be entered into CJIS before renewal



If you have a "paper license" issued through the Montgomery Police Department that has not been entered into CJIS (Criminal Justice Information System) – at least four months before you need to renew your F.I.D. or L.T.C. – please e-mail me at police@montgomeryma.gov, or leave a message at my home phone number 862-4949 – leave your first and last names (spell if not simple) and the date your license was issued so I can locate your file in the Town Hall.

When I have office hours – which is normally every other Thursday as listed in the Mountain Breeze – I will take a picture of your current license and forward it to CJIS – they will upload the information and you can do a renewal from your current license.

When you come to renew or do a new application – don't bring a picture – I have a camera, will take your picture and uploaded it directly into the computer. The biggest hold up is still fingerprints – it is currently taking 6-8 weeks after they are submitted before I hear on the status. Sometimes they cannot find our old cards or even electronically done fingerprint and new card is needed to be processed.

The Police Department office is located in the basement of the Town Hall. If you are unable to come down the stairs, let me know and I will make accommodations to meet you in the library.

STUDIO 20

Featuring Quality household items at a Fair Price LOCATED AT 46 MAIN ROAD MONTGOMERY (IN THE BACK)





Studio 20 is a place to find a variety and ever changing supply of household items, collectibles, real wood furniture and projects. Some pieces need a little love, attention and some pieces simply await the creative mind that will restore them to their original glory. This store will be a place where creative folks can convene, share their projects ideas, or discover new ones.

Open on Saturdays from 9-2 Starting 4/6/19

Get to know Montgomery Modular Homes

Meet Your Merchants

Location: 46 Main Rd., Montgomery

Phone Number: 413-862-3300 / 413-977-1278 **Email:** ron.mmhomes@yahoo.com

Website: montgomerymodularhomes.com

Owner/Manager Name:

Ron Sturgill



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Pancake Breakfast

April 28, 2019 7:00 am to 12 noon

To be held at the Littleville Fair **Grounds Dining Hall**

menu

- Pancakes,
- Scrambled Eggs,
- Sausage,
- Bacon,
- Coffee and OJ!

LITTLEVILLE FAIR · 15 KINNEBROOK ROAD · CHESTER, MA

THINK SUMMER Memorial Day, May 27, 2019 is just around the corner!

This year the town will not have the Marching Band, but other musical arrangements are being made for the service & parade, which will start at NOON at the Town Center.

I am looking for 2-3 brave student volunteers to read historical pieces. For too many years the readings have been – In Flanders Field and the Gettysburg Address – if anyone has any suggestions for others, call me, I'm very open to suggestions.

Any questions please call me – Paula Chapman 862-4949.

Thank you to all who helped last time – this town shows it greatness by honoring our vets because without those who served – we would not be free to celebrate!



Outside the bird feeder with Lori Conley

ABOUT FISHERS

The fisher (Martes pennanti) is the second largest member of the weasel family found in Massachusetts; only the river otter is larger. Although many people call them "fisher cats," the name is inappropriate. They are neither members of the feline

family, nor do they catch fish.

Except during their brief mating season, fishers are solitary creatures and are active during night and day throughout the year.

Identification

As with other members of the weasel family, fishers have a long, low profile when moving along the ground. They average 32 to 40 inches in length, including a tapering, 12 to 16-inch tail.

The males are considerably larger than the females. The legs of a fisher are short and stout and their feet possess retractable claws, which they use for climbing. A fisher's coat is dark brown, dense, and glossy.

Historical Background

Fishers were extirpated from much of the northeast in the 1700s and 1800s when loggers and farmers cleared the forests and unregulated trapping took its toll. During the late 1800s, as farms were abandoned and the land became reforested, fisher numbers rebounded.

In the 1950s logging companies, with permission from each state, reintroduced fishers into northern New England to control porcupines. At the time, porcupines were decimating seedlings planted by the timber companies to reestablish trees in logged areas. Fisher is the only species to deliberately target porcupines as prey.

In the east they are now found in southern Canada, New England and New York, and in scattered locations in Pennsylvania, West Virginia, and Virginia. They may be potentially found in practically every community in Massachusetts.

S ounds

For the most part, the members of the Mustelidae, or weasel family, found in New England, are pretty quiet creatures (unless in the grips of a predator) using scent to locate prey. There are also numerous YouTube sites with recordings attributed to screaming fishers, rather than what we believe is the actual vocalist, a red fox.

Food & Diet

For the most part fishers are carnivores, although they will eat berries and fruit when available. They eat rabbits, snowshoe hares, squirrels, raccoons, mice, reptiles, amphibians, insects, carrion (dead or decaying animal flesh), and occasionally house cats. Even though fishers do not catch live fish, they will eat dead fish found on the shore of a lake or pond.

Fishers are one of the few mammals that prey on porcupines. Porcupines are difficult to kill, but a dead porcupine can provide many days of food for a fisher, so it is worth the effort. While on the ground, the fisher continually attacks the only vulnerable portions of the porcupine's body, its face and underbelly. When facial wounds have weakened the porcupine, the fisher goes in for the kill. To avoid the quills, the fisher eats its prey starting at the head, neck, or underbelly.

Life Cycle

Breeding takes place in March or April when females are 1-2 years old.

Once implanted in the womb the embryo develops in only six weeks. Young fishers are born the following March or early April, and females are able to mate again within just a few days after giving birth.

A litter of 1 to 4 kits is born in a maternity den in a hollow tree. The blind and helpless newborns are dependent on the mother for nearly four months (the male does not help rear the young). Young fishers begin to capture their own prey at four months of age, and disperse by the time they are five months old.

Situations & Solutions

Fishers are secretive and elusive creatures. They keep their distance from humans and do not den under buildings. That being said, fisher sightings have increased significantly since 2000, which may cause concern among homeowners and cat owners. Learn More about how to protect small animals.

Information from Mass Audubon

Linda Stipek-Lafond Memorial Tea & Auction April 13 doors open at 1pm at the Montgomery Town Hall 161 Main Road, Montgomery

Funds from these sales will go to help complete Quilts she was unable to do before she passed of ALS.





Mom had an epic stash of Fabric – more than we could use. She wanted her supplies to be passed on to those who love quilting. A "Tea Cup" auction of her quilting supplies, books and fabric can help use realize her wish of completing some of her beautiful quilts. Plus all the supplies you could ever need to Quilt!

<u>Tea</u>

Mom loved nothing better than a good cup of tea from a china cup. So please come to the Tea that will celebrate her passion and love of Quilting. Drawings of the "Tea Cup" auction will be done at the Tea.

Doors open at 1pm, Tea starts at 2 pm

For more information:

Facebook.com/memorialteaandauction

Or Paula Long at the Montgomery Library 413-862-3894

Tea Cup Raffle items
range from Supplies, Quilt
tops, Needle point kits,
FABRIC!!!! & Gift
Certificates to Local Quilt
Shops!





Library News

facebook.com/ gracehallmemorial

> April 2019

Spring is when you feel like whistling even with a shoe full of slush. ~Doug Larson

Spring Events at the Library

Heartsaver First Aid CPR AED is a video-based, instructor-led course that teaches students critical skills needed to respond to and manage an emergency until emergency medical services arrives. Skills covered in this course include first aid; choking relief in adults, children, and infants; and what to do for sudden cardiac arrest in adults, children, and infants.

This course teaches skills with the AHA's research-proven practice-while-watching technique, which allows instructors to observe the students, provide feedback, and guide the students' learning of skills.

Sign up at the library by April 12 and pay cash, card or check day of class **Fee \$50.00**

April 17 9am -1pm Young Adults/ Kids

April 20 9am – 1 pm Adults

LEARN TO KNIT

Or just finish that *&#@"project"!!!!

Basic Knitting skills with Robin Knowlton

Starter Project is a Dish cloth, supplies needed: 1 skein 100% cotton, Size 8 needles March 21, April 11 & 25 at 6:30 PM

Drop in's welcome! Bring your own projects too, all experiences welcome.

BOOK & PLANT Sale NEW date of May 18

Stop by to our annual spring sale of Books & plants at the Little Red School house. We will be taking book donations at the library till May 15 and Plant donations the morning of the sale. If the date of the sale changes it will be posted outside the library and on our Facebook page.



Yoga Wednesday nights at 6:30pm \$10 Please contact Chris Brown at 862-4591

Trustees Meeting April 4 at 6:30pm

Museum Passes

Old Sturbridge Village Springfield Quad

Norman Rockwell

Mystic Aquarium

Deerfield Historical Mu-

USS Constitution
DCR State Park Pass
MassMoCa

Hours

Tues: 10-5:30 Thurs: 4-8 Sat: 9:30-12:30

Contact

<u>Mail</u>

161 Main Road, Montgomery, MA 01085

<u>Phone</u>

413-862-3894

email

Montgomerylibrary
@yahoo.com
Website
montgomeryma.gov
wghl.masscat.org
facebook.com/
gracehallmemorial

commonwealthcatalog.org

COUNCIL ON AGING

Serving the Citizens of Montgomery April 2019

Calendar

Tue -April 9 - Coffee Hour - 10 a.m.

Tue - April 23 - Coffee Hour - 10 a.m.

Tai Chi

Town Hall Thursday -9:00-10am

Osteoporosis Exercise Class

Town Hall – Friday – 9:30 – 11am

Birthdays

Louise Fowles Anthony Hoynoski

Edward Chapman John Little Joyce Lutat Gene Washburn Patricia Spencer Mary Brady George Haas Duane Lord Curtis Bush

The Huntington Lions Club Annual Senior Appreciation Luncheon

Betty Bodendorf



Place - VFW in Russell Date - April 27, 2018 Time: 11:30 – 1:30 **Please call 862-3257** Deadline is April 20th

World Immunization Week April 24-30

In October 2017, the FDA approved a new shingles vaccine, called **Shingrix**. The CDC officially recommended that adults 50 and over get the new vaccine to prevent this painful, blistering disease instead of the previous one. Zostavax

How is Shingrix different from Zostavax?

Shingrix is more than 90% effective at preventing shingles and a painful complication called postherpetic neuralgia (PHN) in all age groups. Zostavax only lowers the odds of getting shingles by 51%, and of PHN by 67%. It's even less effective in people ages 70 and older

Who should get the Shingrix vaccine?

The CDC says healthy adults age 50 and over should get the Shingrix vaccine, even if you're not sure if you ever had chickenpox.

How many does of the vaccine do you need?

You need two doses, given 2 to 6 months apart. The second dose is really important to make sure you get long-term protection.

Should you get Shingrix if you've already had the Zostavax shot?

Yes. The CDC recommends that you get the Shingrix vaccine if you've already had Zostavax, because it's more effective than the older vaccine and the protection lasts longer.

Should you get Shingrix if you've already had shingles?

Yes. Shingles can come back after you've had it. There's a somewhat increased risk that you could get a second episode, so go ahead and get the vaccine. Just wait until your rash ad other symptoms have cleared.

New Driver's License and ID Application Requirements

To get or renew any driver's license, ID card, or learner's permit, individuals now need documentation showing U.S. citizenship or lawful presence as required by federal and state law.

In addition, customers still have a choice between two types of credentials:

- A Standard Massachusetts driver's license or ID card, which is not valid for federal identification purposes.
- A REAL ID Massachusetts driver's license or ID card, which is valid for federal identification purposes.

Prescription Advantage Rate Schedule Guide for Members Eligible for **Medicare -** Effective April 1, 2019

Medicare provides 'Extra Help' to lower costs for beneficiaries with limited income and resources. Prescription Advantage requires all applicants who may qualify for Extra Help to apply for this benefit. You may qualify for Extra Help if your income is at or below the S1 income and your resources (other than your home) are no more than the current Medicare limits of \$18,735 single, \$25,365 married. Please note: these limits are subject to change.

Co-payment Assistance: Once co-payment assistance begins, you pay no more than the copayments listed above for covered drugs. Prescription Advantage pays any additional amount. Prescription Advantage only pays for drugs covered by a drug plan.

Out-of-Pocket Spending Limit: When your total spending for deductibles (if any) and copayments reaches the annual out-of-pocket spending limit, Prescription Advantage will cover 100% of all co-payments for the remainder of the plan year. Note: Benefits for new members begin on the effective date of Prescription Advantage coverage. Any costs incurred prior to the effective date cannot be applied towards the out-of-pocket spending limit.

You can now apply online at www.prescriptionadvantagema.org or Prescription Advantage Customer Service · 1-800-AGE-INFO (1-800-243-4636); Press 2.

Traffic Safety Reminder: "Move Over"

The "Move Over" law requires all driver's approaching a stationary emergency or maintenance vehicle with flashing lights to move to the next adjacent lane if it is safe to do so, and barring that, to reduce their speed.

- > The law requires all drivers approaching a stationary emergency or maintenance vehicle with flashing lights to move to the next adjacent lane if it is safe to do so, and, barring that, to reduce their speed. Violating the "Move Over" law could result in a fine of up to \$100.
- Every year, first responders across the country are injured or killed while providing emergency roadside help. MassDOT asks that all drivers across Massachusetts take a moment to slow down and move over if they see an officer, emergency responder or maintenance vehicle stopped on the side of the road.

This newsletter is partially funded by a grant of the Executive Office of Elder Affairs Outreach Worker: Ginger Cruickshank 862-4932

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